

LETTER REARRANGEMENTS

CROSSROADS ACADEMY
MATHCOUNTS PREPARATION

1. ALPHABET REARRANGEMENTS

- (1) How many ways are there to arrange all 26 letters of the alphabet, in any order?
- (2) How many ways are there to arrange all 26 letters of the alphabet, if the arrangement must start with *abc*?
- (3) How many ways are there to arrange all 26 letters of the alphabet, if the arrangement must start with *abc* **or** end with *xyz*?
- (4) How many ways are there to arrange all 26 letters of the alphabet, if the arrangement must start with *abc* **1and** end with *xyz*?
- (5) How many ways are there to arrange 14 letter strings (with no repeated letters) can be formed from the alphabet?
- (6) How many ways are there to arrange all 26 letters of the alphabet, if all vowels occur in consecutive order *aeiou*?
- (7) How many ways are there to arrange all 26 letters of the alphabet, if all vowels occur together but in any order between them?
- (8) How many ways are there to arrange all 26 letters of the alphabet, if the vowels occur in order *aeiou* but not necessarily consecutively?
- (9) With the substitution $a = 1$, $b = 2$, etc. what is the largest possible value of a permutation of all of the letters if we add the first letter, subtract the second letter, add the third letter, subtract the fourth letter...
- (10) How many different arrangements of all 26 letters have the value that you got in the previous problem?

2. MORE LETTER REARRANGEMENTS

- (1) How many ways are there to arrange the letters in Crossroads?
- (2) How many ways are there to arrange the letters in Crossroads Academy?
- (3) How many ways are there to arrange the letters in Crossroads Academy if all the vowels must be adjacent?
- (4) How many ways are there to arrange the letters in Crossroads Academy into two “words”?
- (5) How many ways are there to arrange the letters in Humuhumunukunukuapua'a?¹
- (6) How many dictionary words can be formed from *aeirst*?
- (7) How many ways are there to arrange the letters $\{u, u, u, u, u, u, r, r, r, r, r, r, r, r, r, r\}$?
- (8) How many paths are there from $(0, 0)$ to $(11, 6)$ taking only upwards or rightwards steps?
- (9) How are problem 6 and problem 7 related?
- (10) How many different rectangles can be found in an $m \times n$ grid?

Hard How many non-square rectangles can be found in an $m \times n$ grid?

Hard How many squares can be found in an $m \times n$ grid?

¹This is the name of the Hawaiian state fish. The alphabet of Hawaii is interesting because it only contains 13 letters.